

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A bus bar support, having a lower element (2) which can be mounted with an underside thereof on a base, and a top into which several bus bar receptacles (2.3) are cut, which are spaced apart ~~form~~ from each other in a longitudinal direction and are designed for the insulated insertion of bus bars extending in a transverse direction, and a removable upper element (1), which closes the receptacles and fixes in place the inserted bus bars, the bus bar support comprising:

separate sliding elements (3) for blocking the bus bar receptacles (2.3) in a thickness direction extending from a bottom to a top, and bearing inserts (4) for blocking the bus bar receptacles (2.3) in a direction extending transversely to a longitudinal extension of inserted bus bars, and

surrounding the bus bar receptacles (2.3) the bus bar support ~~has~~ having guide structures (2.2, 2.4) in which the sliding elements (3) and the bearing inserts (4) are displaceably seated.

2. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 1, wherein the bus bar receptacles (2.3) have a rectangular shape in a longitudinal section of the lower element (2) and are open toward the top, in a blocking position each of the sliding elements (3) rests on the underside of the bus bar receptacle (2.3), and in the blocking position each of the bearing inserts (4) rests against a lateral face of the bus bar receptacle (2.3).

3. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 2, wherein the sliding elements (3) are U-shaped and the guide structures for the sliding elements (3) are guide grooves (2.2) which extend from a lateral surface of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) parallel with a base of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) in which lateral legs (3.1) are guided, and in a pushed-out position a bottom of the U-shape rests with an underside on the base of the bus bar receptacle (2.3).

4. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 3, wherein the lateral legs (3.1) are resilient and have on an inside a snap-in element (3.2), and at least one matched snap-in counter element (2.21) embodied in the guide grooves (2.2) and arranged so that in at least one of a completely inserted position of the sliding element (3) and a pulled-out position of the sliding element (3), the lateral legs (3.1) are resiliently snapped in, and on a guide face of the bus bar receptacles (2.3) adjoining the guide grooves (2.2) a transversely extending cutout (2.7) is matched to the bottom of the U-shape, into which the bottom of the U-shaped sliding element (3) completely enters in the completely pushed-in state of the sliding element (3), so that an entire depth of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) is usable.

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5. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 4, wherein insert guides (2.4) are formed below the bus bar receptacles (2.3) between lateral outside wall areas of the lower element (2), in which bearing inserts (4) are seated and displaceable to a limited extent in a direction of a normal line with respect to the bottom of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) wherein, in a lowered state the bearing inserts (4) reach with their tops as far as the bottom of the bus bar receptacle (2.3), and in the blocking position rest with their backs on a lateral surface of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) located opposite the sliding element (4), and a clear width of the bus bar receptacles (2.3) is limited by a front which is distanced parallel from the lateral surface.

6. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 5, wherein fronts of the bearing inserts (4) are stepped to form several front sections which definitely limit the bus bar receptacles (2.3) in a broad direction.

7. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 6, wherein the bearing inserts (4) are supported by a spring arrangement in the respective insert guides (2.4) and in a rest position are pushed out into the bus bar receptacle (2.3) as far as a push-in limit.

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8. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 7, wherein the spring arrangement has a compression spring (5) supported on a support element (6) which is releasably inserted near the underside of the lower element (2).

9. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 8, wherein on two oppositely located outer edges the support element (6) has fixation sections (6.1) snapped into matched fixation elements (2.5) on the outside wall areas of the lower element (2).

10. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 1, wherein the sliding elements (3) are U-shaped and the guide structures for the sliding elements (3) are guide grooves (2.2) which extend from a lateral surface of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) parallel with a base of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) in which lateral legs (3.1) are guided, and in a pushed-out position a bottom of the U-shape rests with an underside on the base of the bus bar receptacle (2.3).

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11. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 10, wherein the lateral legs (3.1) are resilient and have on an inside a snap-in element (3.2), and at least one matched snap-in counter element (2.21) embodied in the guide grooves (2.2) and arranged so that in at least one of a completely inserted position of the sliding element (3) and a pulled-out position of the sliding element (3), the lateral legs (3.1) are resiliently snapped in, and on a guide face of the bus bar receptacles (2.3) adjoining the guide grooves (2.2) a transversely extending cutout (2.7) is matched to the bottom of the U-shape, into which the bottom of the U-shaped sliding element (3) completely enters in the completely pushed-in state of the sliding element (3), so that an entire depth of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) is usable.

12. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 1, wherein insert guides (2.4) are formed below the bus bar receptacles (2.3) between lateral outside wall areas of the lower element (2), in which bearing inserts (4) are seated and displaceable to a limited extent in a direction of a normal line with respect to the bottom of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) wherein, in a lowered state the bearing inserts (4) reach with their tops as far as the bottom of the bus bar receptacle (2.3), and in the blocking position rest with their backs on a lateral surface of the bus bar receptacle (2.3) located opposite the sliding element (4), and a clear width of the bus bar receptacles (2.3) is limited by a front which is distanced parallel from the lateral surface.

13. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 12, wherein fronts of the bearing inserts (4) are stepped to form several front sections which definitely limit the bus bar receptacles (2.3) in a broad direction.

14. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 1, wherein the bearing inserts (4) are supported by a spring arrangement in the respective insert guides (2.4) and in a rest position are pushed out into the bus bar receptacle (2.3) as far as a push-in limit.

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15. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 14, wherein the spring arrangement has a compression spring (5) supported on a support element (6) which is releasably inserted near the underside of the lower element (2).

16. (Previously Presented) The bus bar support in accordance with claim 15, wherein on two oppositely located outer edges the support element (6) has fixation sections (6.1) snapped into matched fixation elements (2.5) on the outside wall areas of the lower element (2).